El mayor ganador 12 Unir para luchar 12

MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite! workers.org Vol. 66, No. 47 November 21, 2024 $1

workers.org

WWP COMMENTARY

Resistance grows as West Asia war widens

WW PHOTO: GLORIA RUBAC

Protest against Zionist conference, Dallas, Nov. 16, 2024. See page 5.

By Martha Grevatt

For over a year, the capitalist media has falsely portrayed Israel's genocidal war against the people of Palestine as a war between Israel and Hamas, the resistance group that launched the Al-Aqsa Flood on October 7, 2023. The Flood was a heroic challenge to apartheid conditions imposed on Palestinians since 1948.

There is evidence that the Zionist regime seeks to establish a "Greater Israel" by expelling the Arab masses from occupied Palestine and beyond. The Jerusalem Post published an article on Sept. 25 advocating Israeli control over "not only modern-day Israel, but the West Bank, Gaza and parts of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Turkey."

Israel's Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich "claimed Israel would gradually extend control over Palestinian territories, as well as parts of Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia." This is the expansionist goal of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's right-wing Likud Party. (theweek.com, Oct. 18)

The war against Palestine has widened, becoming a regional and potentially global war. Israel bombed a residential building in Damascus, Syria, Nov. 14, martyring two leaders of the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine, Abdul Aziz Saeed Al-Minawi (Abu Saeed) and Rasmi Youssef Abu Issa (Abu Issam), and other members of the resistance organization. Two days later, in another targeted assassination, Israel bombed the headquarters of the Ba'ath Party in Lebanon, killing Hezbollah's media relations official, Hajj Muhammad Afif.

The vast majority of those slaughtered and wounded in Palestine and now Lebanon are non-combatants, a large number of them children. The Palestinian Ministry of Health put the number of fatalities at 43,846 on November 17, but the number may be much higher.

Last July, the medical journal The Lancet stated that "it is not implausible to estimate that up to 186,000 or even more deaths could be attributable to the current conflict in Gaza." (thelancet.com, July 10) Many more people have been martyred since then.

A death toll of 200,000 represents almost

Continued on page 10

WORKERS WORLD *editorial*

Cabinet dysfunction

President-elect Donald Trump has quickly nominated most of his cabinet and White House staff. Instead of the allegedly qualified managers the Democrats claim they would have chosen to run the gigantic departments that make up the empire's government and state bureaucracy, Trump has chosen an unsavory and incompetent collection of inane monsters.

Their common characteristic is that they cater to Trump, or at least have done so recently. Those who criticized him after the Jan. 6, 2021, coup attempt have adjusted to the new reality. They are all enemies of the multinational working class. Together they bring so many contradictions to the new administration that late-night comedians joke about who Trump will fire first.

Rather than dwelling on nightmares hiding behind jokes, Workers World suggests that the anti-imperialist movement study each appointee's weaknesses. Especially what their personalities reveal about the current weakness of U.S. imperialism. And that we act on every opening that allows us to mobilize resistance.

Battles may open up should these appointments be approved, battles within their departments and battles with the new president. Consider two of Trump's most notorious nominees: Pete Hegseth to head the Defense Department and Robert F. Kennedy Jr to head the Health and Human Services Department.

Hegseth is a former Army National Guard captain who has been a weekend host on "FOX and Friends." He once urged Trump to pardon three U.S. soldiers who committed war crimes when they murdered Iraqi civilians. He attacks some of the topmost U.S. generals for being too "woke" and said Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr. got his job as chair of the Joint Chiefs only because he is Black.

Generals may dislike taking orders from a CEO of industry; they hate taking orders from a captain. Pay close attention to any outbreak of conflict between this captain and his superior officers on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. And prepare to mobilize against both sides.

Continued on page 10

New York City

'Gaza, Gaza you will rise!'

One year after Israel's raid of Al-Shaifa Hospital, protesters held a vigil to honor Gaza at Grand Army Plaza in Brooklyn, New York on Nov. 16. They held up framed photos of some of the hundreds of doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers that have been killed by the Zionist regime.

One of the organizers told the crowd: "They are all working while they see the deaths of their patients, working under constant bombardment, working as they find out about their parents being bombed. They have had to continue working even after they have been raped, stripped and put themselves in survival mode."

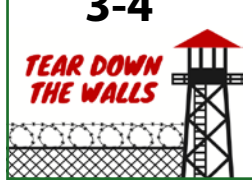
A New York Police Department helicopter hovered above the crowd and a drone later joined it in the sky. As dusk fell, people held up the flashlights on their phones chanting: "We will honor all martyrs. We will fight for justice, We will fight for Gaza." And "Gaza, Gaza you will rise, the people are by your side."

The protest was organized by New York City Healthcare Workers for Palestine, Doctors Against Genocide, Medical Students for Justice in Palestine, Nurses Against Genocide, and Within Our Lifetime.

— Report and photo by Brenda Ryan

Get a daily digest of articles in your Inbox.
Sign up at *www.workers.org/subscribe*

Our Telegram channel:
t.me/WorkersWorldParty



Yahya Al-Sinwar's last will, testament
Free Georges Abdallah, Lebanese fighter
Kenneth Foster: Victim of racist injustice

Save Philly's Chinatown 5
Boeing strikers win 5
Capitalism: the big election winner 7
Editorial: Fight MAGA & war 7
Historic 1974 march blocked Boston racists 8
Abortion bans overturned 9
UAW members: 'Divest from genocide' 10
Remembering transgender warrior, Leslie Feinberg 11

Solidarity with Samidoun 4 Trump's new world disorder 6

Int'l solidarity with the Palestinian people Support Workers World

WorkersWorld extends our utmost solidarity with the Palestinian people on the **International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, commemorated on Nov. 29.** The United Nations General Assembly mandated this day in 1977 to call global attention to the oppression of Palestinians and denial of their basic rights to freedom and self-determination.

The world's people have watched in horror for the last 13 months as Israel has dropped thousands of U.S.-supplied 2,000-lb. bombs on Gaza. Reportedly, 44,000 Palestinians have been killed, including 17,000 children and medical and humanitarian aid workers and journalists — and famine is increasing in the north.

Our newspaper has written the real news and in our editorials has railed against the racist Zionist state's military siege of Gaza and now the occupied West Bank and Lebanon, in its expansionist goals in West Asia.

WW is strongly partisan, siding with the besieged Palestinian people — those struggling to survive in the midst of forced starvation, those facing Israel Occupation Forces' violence and Zionist settler attacks and the thousands imprisoned. We support the Palestinian Resistance in their fight for their people's rights and their stolen land and an end to occupation and repression.

WW articles expose and condemn the complicity of the U.S. government which staunchly backs the Israeli state, giving it billions of dollars for warfare while supplying the powerful bombs which are killing Gaza's people and destroying its infrastructure. The word "ceasefire" is uttered by President Joe Biden, but none has materialized, and the bombs keep going to Israel.

Our newspaper refutes the corporate media's lies, distortions and bigotry. If you want to read the truth about Israel's war and the U.S. role — and share our solidarity with the Palestinian people — Workers World is the newspaper for you.

Join the WW Supporter Program

This pro-worker, anti-capitalist newspaper depends on our readers' backing. The WW Supporter Program was launched 47 years ago to help produce this pro-socialist publication, and for over 30 years has supported workers.org, where new articles are posted daily and the weekly paper's PDF is displayed.

Workers.org contains timely news and analysis of global and U.S. struggles, bulletins from the Palestine Resistance, their allies and other national liberation movements and various articles translated by our staff. Mundo Obrero publishes articles in Spanish.

Our writer-organizers report on anti-capitalist, anti-war and anti-imperialist struggles and promote people's movements against racism — and for the rights of Black, Latine, Indigenous, Arab and Asian peoples and women, workers, migrants, disabled and LGBTQIA2S+ and gender-oppressed individuals. This substantial website is a resource for political activists.

While WW's staff members are volunteers, the 12 issues printed and shipped each year and the website incur expenses. Although many online publications require payments to read their articles, WW does not. **Our articles are free to all readers.**

Can you donate $50, $100, $200 a year? Contributing $50 or more will entitle you to receive 12 print issues a year, email links to articles posted online and, upon request, a copy of the book "What Road to Socialism?"

Your donations help get class truth to more readers — and are appreciated. Write monthly or annual checks to "Workers World." Include your name, address and email; write "Supporter Program" on the memo line. Mail to Workers World, 121 West 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. ☐

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. ☐

If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact:

National Office
121 W. 27th St., Suite 404
New York, NY 10001
212.627.2994
wwp@workers.org

Atlanta
PO Box 18123
Atlanta, GA 30316
404.627.0185
atlanta@workers.org

Bay Area
P.O. Box 22947
Oakland, CA 94609
510.394.2207
bayarea@workers.org

Boston
284 Amory St.
Boston, MA 02130
boston@workers.org
instagram: @wwpboston

Buffalo, N.Y.
335 Richmond Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14222
716.883.2534
buffalo@workers.org

Central Gulf Coast
(Alabama, Florida, Mississippi)
centralgulfcoast@workers.org

Cleveland
cleveland@workers.org

Durham, N.C.
919.322.9970
durham@workers.org

Houston
P.O. Box 3454
Houston, TX 77253-3454
713.503.2633
houston@workers.org

Minnesota
minnesota@workers.org

Philadelphia
P.O. Box 5634
Philadelphia, PA 19129
610.931.2615
phila@workers.org

Portland, Ore.
portland@workers.org

Salt Lake City
801.750.0248
slc@workers.org

San Antonio
sanantonio@workers.org

Seattle
seattle@workers.org

West Virginia
WestVirginia@workers.org

MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

this week

In the U.S.

NYC protest: 'Gaza, Gaza you will rise!' 1
Struggle to save Chinatown from Sixers Arena . . . 5
Machinists strike at Boeing wins good contract. . . 5
The historic 1974 Boston march against racism. . . 8
Grassroots organizing overturns abortion bans. . . 9
UAW members to leaders: Divest from genocide!. . 10
Leslie Feinberg revolutionized transgender rights. . 11

Around the world

Resistance grows as West Asia war widens. 1
Solidarity with Samidoun and Charlotte Kates!. . . 4
Trump, a new world order, old MAGA threats. . . . 6

Tear down the walls

The testament and last will of Yahya Al-Sinwar. . . 3
French court orders release of Georges Abdallah . 3
Kenneth Foster: victim of racist, ironic injustice . . 4

Editorial

Cabinet dysfunction 1
Unite workers & oppressed, fight MAGA & war 7

Mundo Obrero

El mayor ganador de la campaña electoral! 12
Unir para luchar contra MAGA y la guerra. 12

Workers World
121 W. 27th St., Suite 404
New York, NY 10001
Phone: 212.627.2994
E-mail: wwp@workers.org
Web: www.workers.org

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS 966

Vol. 66, No. 47 • November 21, 2024
Closing date: November 20, 2024

Editors: John Catalinotto, Martha Grevatt, Deirdre Griswold, Monica Moorehead, Betsey Piette

Web Editors: ABear, Harvey Markowitz, Janet Mayes

Tear Down the Walls! Editors: Mirinda Crissman, Teddie Kelly

Production & Design Editors: Gery Armsby, Sasha Mazumder

Copyediting and Proofreading: Paddy Colligan, Steve Gillis

Contributing Editors: G. Dunkel, K. Durkin, Sara Flounders, Otis Grotewohl, Gloria Rubac

Mundo Obrero: Deborah Rodriguez, Carlos Vargas

Copyright © 2024 Workers World. Verbatim copying and distribution of articles is permitted in any medium without royalty provided this notice is preserved.

Workers World (ISSN-1070-4205) is published monthly by WW Publishers, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Phone: 212.627.2994.
Subscriptions: One year: $36; institutions: $50.
Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited.
Articles can be freely reprinted, with credit to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or photocopy from NA Publishing, Inc, P.O. Box 998, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0998.
A searchable archive is available on the Web at www.workers.org.

A headline digest is available via e-mail subscription. Subscription information is at workers.org.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404
New York, N.Y. 10001.

The testament and last will of Yahya Al-Sinwar

The leader of Hamas, Yahya Sinwar, was martyred by Israeli forces on Oct. 16, 2024. The images showing Sinwar fighting until the last drop of his blood deeply affected the people all around the world. The testament of Sinwar, who made history with his life and resistance, was published after his martyrdom. Workers World shares this political and moral manifesto with our readers that was posted by United World International on Oct. 24, 2024.

I am Yahya, the son of a refugee who turned exile into a temporary homeland and turned a dream into an eternal battle.

As I write these words, I recall every moment of my life, from my childhood in the alleys, to the long years in prison, to every drop of blood spilled on the soil of this land.

The long road to freedom

I was born in the Khan Younis refugee camp in 1962 during a time when Palestine was a torn memory and forgotten maps on the tables of politicians. I am the man whose life was woven between fire and ashes, and I realized early on that life under occupation means nothing but a permanent prison.

From my earliest days I knew that life in this land is not ordinary and that whoever was born here must carry in their heart an unbreakable weapon, understanding that the road to freedom is long.

My will to you starts here from that child who threw the first stone at the occupier, who learned that stones are the first words we speak in the face of a world that stands silent before our wounds.

I learned in the streets of Gaza that a person is not measured by the years of their life but by what they give to their homeland. And so my life was: prisons and battles, pain and hope. I entered prison for the first time in 1988 and was sentenced to life, but I never knew fear.

In those dark cells I saw in every wall a window to a distant horizon and in every bar a light that illuminated the path to freedom. In prison, I learned that patience is not just a virtue but a weapon, a bitter weapon, like drinking the sea drop by drop.

'Do not negotiate over what is rightfully yours.'

My will to you: do not fear prisons, for they are just part of our long journey toward freedom.

Prison taught me that freedom is not just a stolen right but a concept born from pain and shaped by patience. When I was released in the "Wafa Al-Ahrar" prisoner exchange deal in 2011, I did not emerge the same. I emerged stronger with a greater belief that what we're doing is not just a passing struggle but our destiny; one that we carry until the last drop of our blood.

My will is for you to remain steadfast, clinging to your dignity and to the dream that never dies. The enemy wants us to abandon resistance, to turn our cause into endless negotiations, but I say to you: "Do not negotiate over what is rightfully yours."

They fear your steadfastness more than your weapons. Resistance is not just a weapon we carry, but it is our love for Palestine in every breath we take; it is our will to remain despite the siege and aggression.

Yahya Sinwar

My will is for you to remain loyal to the blood of the martyrs, to those who have left us this thorn-filled path. They paved the road to freedom with their blood, so do not waste those sacrifices in the calculations of politicians or the games of diplomacy. We are here to continue what the first generation began, and we will not stray from this path no matter the cost. Gaza was and will remain the capital of steadfastness, the heart of Palestine that does not stop beating even if the world closes in around us.

'Every day I felt the pain of my people under the siege.'

When I took over the leadership of Hamas in Gaza in 2017 it was not just a transfer of power but a continuation of the resistance that began with stones and continued with the rifles. Every day, I felt the pain of my people under the siege, and I knew that every step we take toward freedom comes at a price, but I tell you: "The cost of surrender is much greater." So hold on to the land as firmly as roots cling to the soil, for no wind can uproot a people who have chosen to live.

In the Al Aqsa Flood battle, I was not the leader of a group or movement but the voice of every Palestinian dreaming of liberation. I was driven by my belief that resistance is not just an option but a duty. I wanted this battle to be a new chapter in the book of Palestinian struggle, where the factions unite and everyone stands in the same trench against an enemy that never distinguishes between a child and an elder, or between a stone and a tree.

The Al Aqsa Flood was a battle of spirit before it was a battle of bodies and of will before it was a battle of weapons. What I leave behind is not a personal legacy but a collective one for every Palestinian who dreamed of freedom, for every mother who carried her son as a martyr on her shoulder, for every father who wept bitterly for his daughter who was killed by a treacherous bullet.

My final will is that you always remember that resistance is not in vain, nor is it just a bullet fired, but a life lived with honor and dignity. Prison and siege have taught me that the battle is long, and the road is hard, but I also learned that people who refuse to surrender create miracles with their own hands.

Do not expect the world to be fair to you, for I have lived and witnessed how the world remained silent in the face of our pain. Do not wait for fairness, but be the fairness. Carry the dream of Palestine in your heart and make every wound a weapon and every tear a source of hope.

The last will

This is my will: Do not lay down your weapons; do not throw away stones; do not forget your martyrs; and do not compromise on a dream that is rightfully yours.

We are here to stay in our land, in our hearts and in the future of our children.

I entrust you with Palestine, the land I loved until death and the dream I carried on my shoulders like a mountain that never bends.

If I fall, do not fall with me, but carry the banner that never falls, and make my blood a bridge for a generation that rises from our ashes stronger.

Do not forget that the homeland is not just a story to be told but a reality to be lived, and with every martyr born from this land a thousand more resistance fighters are born.

If the flood returns and I am not among you, know that I was the first drop in the waves of freedom, and I lived to see you continue the journey.

Be a thorn in their throat, a flood that knows no retreat, and do not rest until the world acknowledges that we are the rightful owners and that we are not just numbers in the news.

Yahya Sinwar, born October 29, 1962.

'A legal and political victory': French court orders release of Georges Abdallah

The following article was posted by the News Desk at The Cradle (thecradle.co) on Nov. 15, 2024. French news sources project that Abdallah is scheduled to be released on Dec. 6.

A French court ordered on Nov. 15 the release of Lebanese resistance fighter Georges Abdallah, who was arrested nearly 40 years ago over the killings of a U.S. military envoy and [an] Israeli diplomat in Paris.

"In (a) decision dated today, the court granted Georges Ibrahim Abdallah conditional release from December 6, subject to the condition that he leave French territory and not appear there again," the prosecutors said on Friday.

Abdallah, a former member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions (LARF), was given a life sentence in 1987 on charges of involvement in the killings of U.S. military attaché Charles Ray and Israeli diplomat Yakov Barsimentov in Paris in 1982.

The Lebanese resistance icon was also accused of involvement in the attempted assassination of U.S. Consul General Robert Homme in Strasbourg, [France].

He was detained in 1982 and was the longest-held prisoner in western Europe. The U.S. had consistently stood against his release. This was his 11th bid for release, as all previous attempts following his eligibility for parole in 1999 were rejected.

France's anti-terrorism prosecutor said it would appeal against Abdallah's release.

The killings of Ray and Barsimentov were claimed by [the] LARF and framed as a response to Washington and Tel Aviv's involvement in the Lebanese civil war.

Israel was heavily affiliated with Lebanon's civil war, which began in 1975 and officially ended in 1990. Tel Aviv backed right-wing Christian militants in Lebanon who were fighting the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and other Lebanese factions at the time.

Israeli troops officially invaded Lebanon in 1982 after having established a buffer zone in the south of the country in 1978. The occupation lasted until 2000, when south Lebanon was liberated by Hezbollah.

Abdallah has become an icon of the Lebanese-Palestinian struggle against Israel since his imprisonment.

His lawyer Jean-Louis Chalanset told Agence France-Presse (AFP) that the release marks "a legal and a political victory."

"After 40 years of detention, we are taking our time to confront the new reality and are trying to avoid entering into emotional states until things become clear and the necessary consequences are built upon," Abdallah's brother told Al-Araby al-Jadeed. □

Georges Abdallah, an icon of the Lebanese-Palestinian struggle against Israel, has been in prison for four decades.

Kenneth Foster: a victim of racist, ironic injustice

TEAR DOWN THE WALLS

By Gloria Rubac
New Boston, Texas

Kenneth Foster was unjustly sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole on Nov. 15 in the small rural East Texas town of New Boston. He was wrongfully convicted of the murder of another prisoner, Anthony Dominguez, at the Telford Unit prison in 2021 in that town.

Racist injustice? From using enslaved labor for its lumber industry to Jim Crow laws to lynchings to Ku Klux Klan activity — this is the history of the town from which people were chosen for Foster's jury this week.

According to the Texas Tribune: "Historians tabulating the lynchings and other murders of Black Texans in the 20th century estimate many of them happened in East Texas. The first half of the last century was punctuated by riots. White people burned down sections of their towns where Black people resided and owned businesses and murdered Black people without consequence.

"The Klan and other white supremacist groups have kept strong roots in this part of the state since the Civil War, organizing events in East Texas as recently as a couple of years ago. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, at least two Klan-related groups were active in East Texas in 2019." (June 17, 2020)

Draconian Law of Parties

Irony? Foster should never have been in prison in the first place. He was sent to death row in 1997 under a draconian Texas legal statute called the Law of Parties.

He and three friends were hanging out in San Antonio, driving around in Foster's grandfather's car, when one of his buddies, Mauricio Brown, asked him to pull over so he could talk with someone. The other three men stayed in Foster's car listening to music when Brown jumped back in the car.

Brown had killed someone. Both Foster and Brown were tried together and both received the death penalty, even though Foster not only did not kill anyone but had no idea a murder was going to happen!

When Foster's execution date was set in 2007, an international grassroots campaign was launched by the Campaign to End the Death Penalty, Foster's family and activists from around the country. A large public outcry was in motion. In a rare move, just a few hours before the execution, former Texas Gov. Rick Perry commuted Foster's sentence to life. It was a joyous victory!

Since then, Foster has been a model prisoner, reading, writing and completing dozens of classes to prepare for his possible parole in 2036. But trouble was awaiting him when he was moved to the Telford Unit a few years ago. Telford was inexcusably understaffed, guards brought in more drugs than one could find on the streets in the "free world," and prisoners were unsupervised and unguarded the majority of the time.

Self-defense not murder

Anthony Dominguez, an inmate, was addicted to the readily available drugs, and in November 2021 he was staying high, not sleeping and becoming paranoid, telling others that Foster was out to get him. These two men did not know each other and had never even spoken to each other. Foster learned this from Dominguez's cellmate, Christian Sibley.

When Foster walked to Dominguez's cell to tell him not to worry as Foster had no animosity toward him, Dominguez attacked Foster with a shank, a prison homemade knife. Foster defended himself and fatally injured Dominguez.

Celandria Foster and Kenneth Foster.

During a 4-day trial, prison guard after prison official took the stand and lied for the state. But the cellmate, Sibley, did testify to the truth: that the prison had so few employees that guards rarely made their rounds, that there were more drugs in that prison than you could find on the streets, and that 95% of those incarcerated at Telford were using K2 and methamphetamines, many frequently hallucinating.

When asked by Foster's attorney how this could happen, Sibley truthfully answered, "Institutional malpractice by the Texas prison system!"

Foster's daughter, Nydesha Foster, and his spouse, Celandria Foster, were totally devastated when a guilty verdict was delivered. The court-appointed attorney had not spoken with family or friends.

Foster's supporters came for the trial from Florida, Las Vegas, Houston, Austin, San Antonio and Seguin in Texas and Savannah, Georgia.

The jury never learned that since getting off death row, Foster completed paralegal training in 2014 and was getting ready to enter a school to be trained as a prison minister. He completed Anger Management training in 2015, a Peer Health Educator course in 2016 and a "We cannot Walk Alone Leadership Development" program in 2016. The Toastmasters International Gavel Club recognized Foster as a Mighty Man of Valor, and he has over a dozen Toastmasters courses completed.

Foster's book, "A Voice from The Killing Machine: A Compilation of Poems and Testimonials" is available on Amazon.

'Justice for Kenneth Foster!'

Foster called his spouse after the verdict and said to thank everyone for their support and presence in court. He said he was still digesting this verdict, but he would be in touch as to how to proceed.

All agreed that this was an awful setback but certainly not the end of the road. Foster and his supporters fought to get him off death row and won. Before everyone left New Boston, plans were discussed. Everyone agreed on the need to find an excellent appeals attorney and then raise money for the attorney and investigators.

Again, the fight for justice for Kenneth Foster continues, and it will be won! □

Solidarity with Samidoun and Charlotte Kates!

Workers World Party urges unwavering support for Samidoun Political Prisoners Network and denounces the outrageous attack by Canadian authorities and police units on Charlotte Kates, the International Coordinator of Samidoun, and her home.

This attack is part of a continuing effort by U.S./ Canadian / European Union governments to support the brutal Zionist crimes being committed in Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen. It is part of the intimidation, arrests, mass blocs on social media, and shutdowns of campus organizations of many thousands who are mobilizing and speaking out.

It is part of the effort to silence the powerful international support for Palestinian people's justified resistance.

This attack on Samidoun is an attack on all who fight for human rights and against genocide. Our unity and solidarity is our strongest defense.

– Sara Flounders

The following statement was published by Resistance News Network Prisoners on Nov. 15, 2024.

Fascist Canadian forces violently raided the home of Samidoun Political Prisoners Network International Coordinator Charlotte Kates on Nov. 15, entering without a search warrant or charges in the middle of the day.

A large number of heavily armed police forces arrived in an armored vehicle to her home, launching tear gas and flash bangs, breaking a window during their violent entry.

Neighbors testified to the good nature of Kates, agreeing that the police went too far in their use of force. Kates was reportedly released after a brief detention. This comes just weeks after Canada and the U.S. baselessly designated Samidoun as a "terrorist organization," an allegation not rooted in facts and without any charges.

The Network was also banned on Telegram as part of a growing campaign of repression. Kates has been a persistent target of imperialist harassment in defense of the zionist entity.

Charlotte Kates

In April, Charlotte was arrested for a speech she gave calling for resistance groups to be removed from the sham "terrorist lists," abducted while riding the bus and banned from attending protests.

The Canadian state has made the decision to align itself with the zionist entity, intensifying repression in increasingly violent ways in response to growing and historic pro-Palestinian mobilization globally, which is in response to the call of the resistance and their steadfastness.

We are seeing this globally from Germany to the Netherlands to the U.S., Jordan, and Egypt. This repression aims to stifle solidarity with the Palestinian and Arab resistance, which continues to achieve victories on the ground in their war of attrition.

As the resistance wins, repression increases. While the real terrorists continue to funnel money and weapons to the zionist entity, the resistance and its cradle are criminalized for exercising their inalienable rights.

What they fear is our unity, steadfastness, and liberation. We reaffirm our full and unwavering solidarity with Samidoun and any comrades facing repression. The attack on Charlotte Kates is an attack on all of us. We are all Samidoun.

The statement was lightly edited.

Zionist conference protested in Dallas

By Gloria Rubac
Dallas

Palestinians and other Arab peoples, Muslims, Palestine supporters and progressive activists of all stripes converged on Dallas on the weekend of Nov. 16-17 to let the Jewish National Fund know that they are not welcome in this city.

A "Global Conference for Israel" was held by the JNF at the Dallas Hilton Anatole Hotel on Nov. 14-17. Protests were held every day, with "No Sleep for Genociders" noise demonstrations taking place with drums, horns, tambourines and pots and pans at 10:00 p.m. on two nights. This gave attendees nighttime reminders that Zionists will get no rest in Dallas.

Apparently, the JNF realized that strong opposition to their conference was building, because the group announced on its web page that it had "contracted with a private security company to oversee coordination and implementation of security at our conference. In addition, we are in constant contact with local law enforcement and the FBI."

Protesters observed a huge number of Dallas police and many plainclothes law enforcement officers as well as several low-flying overhead drones each day.

Jewish Voice for Peace blocked traffic and planted a tree in the middle of a busy street near the Hilton on Nov. 14. Dallas police arrested 10 people, charging them with obstructing a highway. Protesters were also issued criminal trespass warnings from a private business in the 2200 block of Stemmons Freeway.

A "Colonizers Out of Texas Chalk the Block" action was held on the sidewalks around the hotel hosting the conference on Nov. 15. A statewide mobilization protest took place on Nov. 16 followed by a "Shut Down the Streets Car Rally" on Nov. 17.

This reporter went to Dallas on one of the two buses

Continued on page 5

Struggle to save Chinatown from Arena moves to City Council

By Marta Guttenberg, Cindy Lou
Philadelphia

A special session of the Philadelphia City Council was held Nov. 12 for council members to question representatives of 76DevCorp about their master plan and Community Benefits Agreement for a $1.5 billion basketball arena called "76 Place" they want to build adjacent to Philadelphia's historic Chinatown.

With Mayor Cherelle Parker being an enthusiastic proponent of the arena plan, it was not surprising that her staff members were on hand to help the owners' representatives answer questions or that the event was planned without input from communities that will be most impacted.

For weeks now, members of the No Arena in Chinatown Coalition have visited council members' offices almost daily, urging them to consider various aspects of the proposal and expressing concerns that they were being rushed into making a decision without having examined all the information.

This tactic seems to have paid off in that most of the council members subsequently asked detailed and probing questions in the session. For over four hours, lawmakers questioned Parker administration officials about the agreement reached with the team, transportation to the arena and alleged community benefits.

High on their list was the arena's potential impact on the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) which already claims to be cash-strapped. In current negotiations with Philadelphia union members seeking wage and benefit increases, the SEPTA already says it would have to raise fares by over 20% and make severe service cuts.

The arena proposal includes plans for SEPTA to build a new facility above the Jefferson Station in Center City. Council member Cindy Bass voiced the growing concern that "SEPTA is saying they're not paying for these costs. They're not gonna do it. So the question is, 'Who's gonna do it?'"

Community Benefits Agreement

Council members had questions concerning the $50 million Community Benefits Agreement the Parker administration negotiated as part of a broader deal with the Sixers. Previously, Parker has called the legally-binding CBA "historic" and "the best financial deal ever" for a Philadelphia sports arena. Parker says the CBA includes an array of citywide initiatives and programs and "efforts designed to mitigate concerns raised by neighborhoods that will be directly impacted by the arena." Yet the plan is short on details about how that will happen, plus community stakeholders never had a seat at the table while the agreement was being fashioned.

Council members at the hearing questioned whether the terms of the CBA — content and dollar amount — were negotiable now that it was up for consideration in the Council. Council member Isaiah Thomas asked, "Is there any appetite from the admin to renegotiate some of these things to put us in a position to be able to find something that is a little more beneficial to the city of Philadelphia than what we have in place right now?"

Sept. 7 march included several thousand workers, students and community members in opposition to the controversial arena. WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Real impact on workers

The arena owners and Parker repeatedly claim the project will increase the numbers, wages and diversity of workers needed for construction and other jobs and services once built. Administration officials told council members that the plan would not pit one nationality against another. Yet in hearings leading up to the council session, arena supporters have pitted construction workers — among the area's highest paid yet least diverse workforces — against residents of Chinatown.

In October, existing concessions and service workers at the city's sports facilities represented by UNITE HERE Local 274 went out on a short strike over low wages and the lack of benefits. These workers — one of the city's most diverse workforces — have frequently spoken at rallies in support of the SAVE Chinatown movement, pointing out they can't live on existing poverty level wages paid by Aramark which manages concessions.

Class war pits billionaires against workers

While several council members questioned the representatives for Parker and the Arena, only council member Nicholas O'Rourke framed the issue in terms of class war when he pointed out that the city politicians were wasting hours on doing the bidding of three billionaire Sixers owners while Trump was due to take office in 69 days. O'Rourke asked just what the city's plan was to protect workers dealing with inflation, housing insecurity, closing schools, an impending SEPTA strike and a city workers strike?

No Arena in Chinatown public teach-in

The billionaire developers behind 76DevCorp have been hiding from the people of Philadelphia and Chinatown from day one. Since community members were not allowed to speak at the council session, members of various No Arena in Chinatown groups pushed back by holding a press conference and public teach-in taking questions and comments outside City Hall.

Even without official approval and clearly knowing there would be broad community opposition, Parker and the billionaire developers have laid the groundwork for the arena for over two years beginning at a private meeting on Oct. 21, 2022.

In June 2023, the bus terminal in Chinatown was decommissioned and slowly torn down to clear the site. In November 2023, after pro-developer candidate Cherelle Parker was elected mayor, announcing her support for the arena, she claimed the Community Benefits Agreement plan to be "excellent," and that she was ready to sign the city on.

While Parker and the billionaire developers may want the billion-dollar arena, residents and business people from Chinatown and other endangered communities in the Gayborhood and Washington Square West clearly do not. But to date, Parker has refused to meet directly with the impacted communities, turning down four invitations to meet with the Coalition.

Upon learning of the 76ers plans, residents of Philadelphia's historic Chinatown began organizing to fight back. They are no strangers to developers' efforts to encroach on their community, having successfully fought back against attempts to build a baseball stadium and a casino there and with limited success the construction of a federal prison and expansion of Philadelphia's Convention Center. They know from experience that the arena will endanger community and arts insitutions.

The arena is a gentrifiers' boondoggle. Billionaires want to take a community, disappear it and its people for profit and move on to the next community.

We will not let the billionaires have Chinatown.

Betsey Piette contributed to this article.

Machinists strike at Boeing wins good contract

By Jim McMahan
Seattle

The strike by International Association of Machinists District 751 and District W24 has won a victory over Boeing, the military contractor and airplane behemoth. IAM members in Seattle and Portland voted on Nov 4 for a new contract with a 43% wage raise over four years, along with other gains.

While being denied their demand for a full guaranteed pension, workers won a $12,000 bonus and improvements to their 401(k) individual retirement funds. Nevertheless roughly 40% of the striking union members voted against the latest contract, with pensions likely being a major issue for them.

This Tyrannosaurus rex-style company produces a vast array of military and related technological equipment, including F-15 and F-18 jet bombers and the bombs they drop. These terror weapons are used in Palestine, elsewhere in West Asia, North Africa and the rest of the world to maintain U.S. imperialist rule.

Boeing is the number one military contractor involved in the U.S. genocide against Palestine. The company has used layoffs, outsourcing, threats and a partnership with the government to keep the union in a subservient position and deny workers needed compensation for the last 16 years.

A domestic component of Boeing and the Pentagon's terror-war on Palestine and Lebanon is the company's war on its own workers, especially the 33,000 IAM members.

The machinists were cheated out of their pensions in 2014. They had gained only small 1% average yearly increases since then, despite roaring inflation. Most of the workers live in the Seattle area, which is among the cities in the country where the cost of living is highest. As home costs and rents are increased, workers are priced out of their homes and neighborhoods.

The strike caused a $6.4 billion loss for Boeing in the third quarter, but Boeing was bailed out by Wall Street when the company was allowed to gain $20 billion with a huge sale of stock in November. This put Boeing in a position to hold out longer against the IAM strike and to refuse the workers' demand for their full pension.

The strike was an uprising against the vicious attacks that monopoly capitalists imposed on the working class. The IAM was able to respond with a high level of organization and strength on the picket lines for over seven weeks. For weeks before the strike began on Sept. 12, workers marched through their plants daily to raise their demands and build support.

Strikers were encouraged by the growing upsurge of labor in recent years, such as the United Auto Workers strike against Ford, General Motors and Stellantis in 2023 and the Starbucks Workers United organizing drive.

The machinists gained strong support from the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA), whose members refused to do the Machinists' jobs during the strike. Striking members from UNITE HERE! (hotel workers) joined the strikers on the picket lines. Running parallel with the lies and false promises of the presidential election, the strike showed that fighting unions can win against the top capitalist monopolies like Boeing. □

Zionist conference in Dallas

Continued from page 4

from Houston that left from different mosques on Nov. 16. Both buses were filled with many generations of Palestinians and their supporters. Buses also came from Austin and San Antonio, Texas. With a very loud sound truck and hundreds of massive Palestinian flags, close to 3,000 people marched and rallied for five hours that day.

According to JVP: "The Jewish National Fund (JNF) is one of the oldest and largest organizations behind the theft of Palestinian land and the support of segregated, Jewish-only settlements on this stolen land. Now, the JNF seems to be fueling and providing cover for genocide of Palestinians — all by claiming to do so in the name of Jewish safety.

"As Jews, we will continue to stand up to the JNF and other right-wing organizations which enable the displacement of Palestinian families and Jewish supremacy."

One of the young protesters proclaimed on the bus ride back to Houston: "I think the JNF got the message. Zionist genociders and hate are not welcome in Texas." □

Trump confronts a new world order with old MAGA threats

By Sara Flounders

President-elect Donald Trump faces an entirely new problem confronting U.S. imperialism. It is unprecedented. A new world is emerging.

It is globally recognized that U.S. economic and political power is in an unstoppable downward spiral. It has failed in decades of war to turn its fortunes around. Now it is at a tipping point. Even though major corporations reap billions of dollars in record profits, the capitalist mode of production is in an irreversible stage of decline, and the U.S. empire is being challenged on a global scale.

The election campaigns of both the Republican and Democratic party candidates confirm that the U.S. empire has nothing to offer the world except threats, sanctions and wars — which are no longer sufficient to maintain its dominance. The two imperialist political parties have different social bases and different styles, but they offer no meaningful choices.

Rapidly developing alliances of countries of the Global South can no longer be ignored. Trump's MAGA slogan — "Make America Great Again" — ignores this reality, and it confirms just how out of touch the U.S. ruling-class establishment is with the world today. U.S. hegemony is gone, but U.S. imperialists, in their arrogance, can't see the facts on the ground.

The massive, systematic destruction in Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon reveals to the world the extent U.S. imperialism is willing to go to defend Israel, the settler-colonial outpost of its dying empire. But the people of the world have seen the power of resistance. The bombs, the targeted assassinations, the hunger and the destruction of all civilian infrastructure have failed to break the determination of the Palestinian people and their allies in Iran, Lebanon, Yemen and elsewhere.

The complete inability of Israel in more than a year of bombing — backed by the U.S. and other imperialist powers — to defeat the Palestinian liberation struggle and the revolutionary unity of the Axis of Resistance confirms the limits of U.S. power.

100% tariffs on China are wishful thinking

To the great frustration of U.S. imperialism, U.S. tariffs will hardly make a dent in China's global trade. China is now the world's largest exporter of goods. China's annual exports of $1.6 trillion to the countries of the Global South and BRICS+ is four times that of China's exports to the U.S. and more than the combined total of China's exports to the U.S., Europe and Japan. Trump's threats to impose even 100% tariffs on China only hurts U.S. industries and U.S. workers. Tariffs cause rounds of inflation in the U.S., making U.S. products even less attractive to buyers. (asiatimes.com, April 25, 2023)

Eight years ago and now

This is not the world situation that Trump faced when he was elected president in 2016, a mere eight years ago. The world is changing fast!

Eight years ago, Trump promised — which he has also done this time — to end "endless U.S. wars" on his first day in office. He then focused on the war in Afghanistan. Instead, Trump sent more troops and kept the war going for four more years. After Trump left office, early in the Biden administration, the U.S. military occupation of Afghanistan ended, in a humiliating and frantic airport stampede and a total collapse of the U.S.-backed regime.

In 2016 the U.S. ruling class, in both the Democratic and Republican parties, was united in bringing down the government of Syria by providing the Islamic State in Syria (ISIS) and a myriad of well-funded contra forces with weapons and air cover. This U.S. effort failed.

Mass anti-Trump demonstration, Chicago, Nov. 6, 2024.

Both imperialist parties were confident that the U.S. sending arms to Saudi Arabia would overturn the resistance in Yemen. That too failed. Threats against Iran were at an all-time high.

Eight years ago Israeli settlements were surging in the West Bank while Gaza seemed effectively sealed-off by strangling sanctions.

During Trump's first administration, new rounds of thousands of economic sanctions were imposed on Cuba and Venezuela in a concerted effort to overturn these revolutionary governments. The result was another U.S. failure.

The BRICS+ and other summits

Now, a whole series of trade alliances, new forms of exchange and a confident new spirit confront a tired, old MAGA slogan.

The 15th annual summit meeting of the BRICS+ countries of nine major emerging economies met Oct. 22-24, two weeks before the U.S. election, confirms this new reality. More than 30 countries have applied to join BRICS.

This gathering of 1,500 attendees, representing nearly half of the world's population, in Kazan, Russia, sparked more interest globally than the U.S. elections that have nothing new to offer. New payments and trade mechanisms to bypass U.S.-dominated structures and sanctions on one-third of the world, are developing.

At the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's summit in Astana, Kazakhstan, in July, the SCO, with 10 member states and 14 dialogue partners, signed agreements for peaceful mutual development just days before the U.S.-dominated NATO military alliance met in Washington, D.C. NATO met to reinforce war in Ukraine and arrogantly demand that Russia, China, Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sever ties with each other. (workers.org/2024/07/79921)

At the ninth annual meeting of African nations in Beijing, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, on Sept. 5, China pledged $50 billion in infrastructure funding and the creation of 1 million jobs for African workers.

In Sochi, Russia, the Russia-Africa Partnership Forum just concluded. Russia wiped out $23 billion of African nations' debt amid new cooperation agreements,

Both international gatherings confirmed new breakthroughs for the anti-colonial countries of Africa. The integration of nations is growing at great speed.

The meetings of Saudi Arabia and Iran and their joint naval exercises in the Sea of Oman and the Red Sea in October showed new determination to overcome decades of U.S.-inflamed hostility between the two countries.

China — the game changer

China played a pivotal role in all these international developments.

What China offers is not just a powerful economy and new development plans. Because China's socialist base isn't driven to maximize profit for its private shareholders in every possible transaction, the government is able to introduce a wholly different approach to development. This gives rise to a very different kind of international relations. Genuine collaboration is possible. This is a radical break from centuries of horrific imperialist looting in the developing world.

China, once a country robbed and exploited by all the imperialist powers, knows that its interests lie in global development. China's ability to end poverty for 800 million of its people gives confidence to developing countries seeking concrete and immediate solutions. This is a dramatic contrast to imperialist arrogance.

China's Belt and Road initiatives, involving 150 countries, are the most ambitious infrastructure projects ever conceived. These include the construction of railways, power plants, satellite networks, ports, terminals, along with health, cultural and educational projects. Spending has already exceeded $1 trillion, with more funding in the pipeline. These initiatives spur development and build connections among countries (workers.org/2021/05/56379)

The world situation has changed in profound ways. There is now new solidarity and assistance developing among the more than 40 countries hit by starvation sanctions by the U.S. and other members of the G7. Trump's MAGA slogans and threats of more sanctions can't reverse this.

Because U.S. imperialism is incapable of any project that is not immediately profitable for its corporate investors, it is only able to issue streams of threats, warnings and false information against Belt and Road development projects. It is common knowledge that the United States cannot even solve its own internal infrastructure problems.

Ukraine war faces defeat

Trump's election night promise to end the wars — especially focusing on NATO's war in Ukraine — has created both positive reactions in Russia and apprehension in the European Union countries, which are left holding the remains of this defeated U.S. project. This means billions of dollars in now worthless loans to Ukraine and crumbling equipment and millions of Ukrainian refugees who are spread throughout Europe expect continued EU subsidies.

The North Stream pipeline's potential for cheap energy for German industries was destroyed. EU customers are now forced to buy expensive U.S. fracked gas. The European economies are now chained firmly to U.S. imperialism's war chariot.

Will the incoming Trump administration put Ukraine's defeat on the doorstep of Biden and Harris and move on to advancing U.S. war threats against China?

It is useful to remember Trump's past fraudulent promises to end the U.S. war in Afghanistan, withdraw troops from Iraq, Syria and U.S. bases in South Korea. Trump's first loyalty is to the giant military corporations and banks which are so heavily invested in war.

Even if the wars are failing, in the short term, they are immensely profitable. For capitalism, that is decisive. As Trump reminds his moneyed supporters, he is first and foremost a capitalist, backed by the biggest capitalists like Elon Musk.

The U.S./NATO war in Ukraine, launched in 2022 under the Biden/Harris administration, failed to shatter Russia into divided pieces or turn the Russian ruble into rubble as Biden promised. Instead, the rest of the world refused to go along with the demands of the imperialist countries and enforce the thousands of imposed sanctions. Russia's exports of oil, gas, grains and fertilizer are essential throughout the Global South.

Russia shifted its trade from Europe to the Global South. The ruble, backed by gold, soared in value. The sanctions boomeranged back onto to the U.S. and especially battered the economies of the European Union countries.

People aren't buying the Pentagon's message

On Election Day, Nov. 5, the U.S. Air Force test launched a nuclear-capable Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. This is the Pentagon sending its own message that regardless of who wins the election, war is on the agenda.

But the Pentagon can't generate enthusiasm for war. In the recent election, nearly 40% of those eligible didn't vote and a great number are dissatisfied with the economy and more.

Popular sentiment — combined with the decades of war, the deteriorating U.S. global position and the unsolvable problems of a system built only to maximize profit — means that there is fertile ground for mobilizing working-class resistance in the coming period. ☐

WORKERS WORLD editorial

Unite workers and oppressed, fight MAGA and war

Workers World's editorial the day after the election called on all those who fight imperialist war and on all those who hate and aim to combat the MAGA program to "answer with all forms of protest any attack that comes our way."

The initial response from the anti-imperialist opposition has been encouraging: no hesitation from those combating genocide in Gaza and Lebanon to stay in the streets.

These actions have been the cutting edge of the anti-imperialist movement over the past year. Judging by the number of actions scheduled for the New York City region throughout November, the anti-genocide movement refuses to concede to U.S. imperialism, no matter which party directs Washington. The activists deserve the full support of all who consider themselves anti-imperialists and fighters for socialism.

Democrats and Republicans have virtually the same foreign policy. Their main disagreement involves blaming each other for the many setbacks for U.S. imperialist hegemony in the last period — the pullout from Afghanistan, the impending collapse of the proxy war in Ukraine, the economic gains of China.

Both parties arm Israel and have for 76 years. They both fund the Pentagon's bases surrounding China and North Korea. They both threaten Iran. They both wage economic war with sanctions and provoke emigration — and then blame the migrants for everything. They both arm the Ukrainian reactionaries and NATO's war against Russia. Trump demands bigger European funding. Big deal.

Remember that whether Trump or Joe Biden was the Commander in Chief, the Pentagon had to get out of Afghanistan and Iraq and retreat from plans for the conquest of Syria. Anti-imperialists will have new opportunities to obstruct the U.S. drive to militarism and war, from West Asia to East Asia to Eastern Europe, and to fight to stop the U.S. from arming Israel, whether Democrats or Republicans are in the White House.

Peoplehood Parade and Pageant unites anti-imperialist and popular organizations. Philadelphia, Nov. 9, 2024. WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

On another front, many people consider the electoral victory for Trump's Republican Party a particular threat on vital issues. They have good reasons to prepare for self-defense. Trump has openly attacked reproductive rights, women, unionization, racial equality, government programs subsidizing health care, retirement pay, affirmative action and public education. His campaign targeted our working-class siblings who have migrated to the United States and who are essential workers here. He and his cronies spew bigotry, especially against trans people, racism, misogyny and xenophobia throughout the media.

It is encouraging then that organizations and coalitions have also called protests to show opposition to the new regime on those issues and on any steps the MAGA regime takes to attack oppressed sectors of the working class inside U.S. borders. Solidarity must be the first point on our agenda.

There have already been protests by some unions. Ad hoc coalitions have called for protests of the new administration on Jan. 18 and on Inauguration Day. Anti-imperialist and revolutionary organizations must also intervene in these kinds of actions. They must join with sectors of the working class that are in motion against the new MAGA regime and help weld these various sectors into a united fighting force. Only in this way can they both win battles and influence the direction of the struggle.

As during the first Trump administration, many of those protesting the MAGA crowd may have the illusion that pushing the government back toward the Democratic Party will protect them and resolve their problems. No, it won't. We need a popular self-defense of all sectors of our class — the working class — under attack. And we need an organization independent of capitalist electoral politics, or the working class will again be trapped choosing between two parties that are both its enemies, as the 2024 election showed.

Only by finding ways to participate in the actions while maintaining our independent, revolutionary, anti-imperialist position will we be able to influence broader sectors of our class and expose the impossibility of either the Republican or Democratic Party to lead to anything but disaster. Defeating the militarist MAGA bigots while breaking with the militarist Democrats is the way forward. ☐

WW COMMENTARY

Capitalism: biggest winner in election campaign

By Monica Moorehead

The writer was Workers World Party's presidential candidate in 1996, 2000 and 2016. She won more votes than any other socialist candidate in the 1996 election.

Almost a week after the Nov. 5 elections, bourgeois pundits continue to analyze how Donald Trump won so easily, and what went so badly wrong with Kamala Harris's campaign. These questions may be important in the short term, but in the long term, they leave out what is most important: the class question.

Marxists understand that the issue of class oppression is at the heart of every development, from all forms of white supremacy, misogyny, migrant bashing, trans oppression, climate change, etc,. to bread and butter issues. It comes down to the exploited and the exploiter, the oppressed and the oppressor. On the surface, it may appear that individual politicians like Trump and Harris represent solely the Republican and Democratic parties, but this erroneous view is missing the forest for the trees.

The class truth is that these candidates, like many before them, belong to parties that represent the interests of the capitalist system, not the workers and oppressed peoples. Capitalism is a global economic system driven to make profits at any cost by superexploiting the labor and resources of the global working class.

It is the capitalist system that gave rise to a small clique of multimillionaires and billionaires to help maintain this crisis-ridden system, with all its erratic up and down cycles. The system is absolutely dependent on bailouts, the raising and lowering of interest rates, mass layoffs, low wages and more for its very survival.

While the working class was in essence the biggest loser of the 2024 elections, since their day to day survival did not fundamentally change with the outcome, the biggest winner of all was the billionaire class and the system that they serve.

One only has to read the Bloomberg Billionaire Index report after the election to substantiate this reality: "Wednesday wasn't just a good day for Donald Trump. The wealth of the world's 10 richest people also soared by a record amount. The biggest gainer was Elon Musk, the world's richest person and one of Trump's most outspoken and dedicated supporters, whose wealth jumped $26.5 billion to $290 billion Wednesday.

"Amazon founder Jeff Bezos' wealth grew $7.1 billion a week after defending his decision to withhold the Washington Post's endorsement of Vice President Kamala Harris. Oracle cofounder Larry Ellison, another Trump supporter, saw his net worth rise $5.5 billion Wednesday."

The report went on to say: "Other gainers include former Microsoft executives Bill Gates and Steve Ballmer, former Google executives Larry Page and Sergey Brin and Berkshire Hathaway CEO Warren Buffett. Although none of those billionaires endorsed a candidate this year, they have spoken in favor of Democratic candidates and causes in the past. Collectively, the top 10 richest people gained $64 billion. Bloomberg notes it's the 'biggest daily increase' of wealth it's seen since the index began in 2012." (CNN, Nov. 7)

Forbes now estimates Elon Musk's net worth at $304 billion.

This report did not make major headlines following the election. And for good reason. It is not in the interest of the major mouthpieces of the billionaire ruling class, the media, to spread these outrageous figures. The ruling class fears creating anger amongst the workers and, more importantly, raising class consciousness about what the U.S. elections are all about: maintaining and strengthening class rule.

May 1, 2020 protest, Philadelphia. WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Elections: one arena of reaching our class

In every election that Workers World Party has participated in since 1980, the main objective has been to expose the class bias of the elections to any worker and oppressed person who would listen — anyone seeking a real alternative to their unstable conditions.

WWP electoral campaigns always spoke to the needs and aspirations of our class, what capitalist politicians only give lip service to every four years, hoping to occupy the White House. WWP never separates its revolutionary program from the necessity for a socialist revolution to overturn cruel and inhumane class relations and free the workers from wage slavery.

Any anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist party choosing to use the arena of the bourgeois elections — which are forced on our class every four years — as a tactic and strategy to reach the broadest sectors of the working class is duty-bound to show that the road to true liberation is not dependent on one capitalist party over another but through an independent struggle.

What is the task going forward now that the 2024 elections are over? This is not an easy question to answer with many progressive forces still reeling from an openly fascistic, misogynist, xenophobic billionaire once again occupying the Oval Office.

Supporting upcoming demonstrations as a defensive measure will remain important to show the proponents of the status quo that the movement is still alive and well and not going anywhere. At the same time, the most class conscious, revolutionary forces must go on the offensive to develop a united, classwide perspective on a global scale. That will help fill the void that the bourgeois elections have created. They have held sway over the workers and oppressed for way too long. ☐

Remembering the historic 1974 Boston march against racism

By Andy Stapp

The following article — about a massive march to counter racist attacks by a fascist movement during the desegregation of Boston schools and busing of Black schoolchildren — ran 50 years ago in the Dec. 20, 1974, issue of Workers World newspaper.

Boston's segregationist, "anti-busing" forces of 1974 — comprised of local business owners, elected politicians, police forces, priests and criminal gangs supported by national forces from the White House to the KKK, American Nazi Party and John Birch Society — were the generational predecessors of the racist, misogynist, bigoted MAGA forces of 2024. They trace their common fascist roots to the country's genocidal, settler-colonial founders in Massachusetts. As they prepare their next violent attacks on the world's workers and oppressed peoples from seats of power in Washington, D.C., it is much more than an exercise in nostalgia to review how these forces have been defeated in the past.

Boston's "March Against Racism" on Dec. 14, 1974, dealt a body blow to the fascist forces. Where they had previously been fielding tens of thousands in Boston's streets and had effectively shut down Boston Public Schools by violence in early December 1974, after the Dec. 14 march they have not since been able to mobilize a mass racist event in the city beyond smaller, paramilitary attacks and political maneuvers.

Initiated by a then very small branch of Workers World Party, in a few emergency weeks, the organizers in Boston built a broad, national, working class-based united front that was able to defend the Black community's right to self-determination by bringing together unionists, civil rights leaders, the new and blooming women's and LGBTQIA2S+ movements, tenants and students, disability rights fighters, anti-war activists, veterans and socialists and communists of various tendencies to say "No to racism!' in one militant voice that left little political room for the fascists to organize.

– Steve Gillis (former president, United Steelworkers Local 8751, Boston School Bus Drivers' Union)

BOSTON, Dec. 14, 1974 — The most massive and militant demonstration against racism held anywhere in the United States for a decade took place today in the city of Boston.

The march was called by the Emergency Committee for a National Mobilization Against Racism, an organization set up to counter the racist and fascist groups which have been instigating lynch mob attacks on Black people here under the code slogan of "fighting busing."

Participants in the anti-racist demonstration began arriving in Roberto Clemente Memorial Park at 10 a.m., about three hours before the march was scheduled to begin. Many were among the estimated 5,000 people who came in buses from 36 states to join 20,000 local residents of Boston, almost half of whom were Black, who participated in the action.

March garners wide support

Only seven weeks had passed since the Emergency Committee had begun to build for the demonstration. During that brief period the idea of a march against the racist terror gripping Boston gathered very wide support, especially from labor, despite the utter collapse of the ruling- class liberals of the Kennedy stripe.

By December 14, half a million leaflets calling for the demonstration had been handed out in the various neighborhoods of Boston. Shortly before the march, South Boston itself, an organizing center for the fascists, was heavily postered by workers from the Emergency Committee.

A number of lesbians, several of whom live in South Boston, took the lead in this and in one night pasted over 100 posters over the racist epithets, KKK slogans and swastikas that every morning have confronted the Black school children being bused into the area.

By 12:45 p.m., the park was a sea of color as thousands of demonstrators massed with green banners and flags denouncing racism. Although it was cold and threatening to rain, the crowd was in high spirits. Even before the march began, those present could see it would be larger than anything the racists had been able to organize — despite almost a decade of segregationist organizing in South Boston.

WW PHOTO: DICK CUSHING

As more and more demonstrators poured into the assembly area, it was clear on people's faces: They knew history was being made in Boston on this day.

'KKK — It's not your day!'

The racists — the Klan, Nazis and the notorious ROAR [Restore Our Alienated Rights] group led by Louise Day Hicks — had threatened to use violence to stop the march only a few weeks ago. In the face of the large and militant crowd that gathered today, however, not one racist dared show their face. Cheers rippled through the field as a group of demonstrators hung Hicks in effigy. The jubilant anti-racist crowd began to chant: "KKK — it's not your day!"

Less than a week before, 600 of the most vicious racists [led by Hicks and State Senator William Bulger] had trapped 100 Black children inside South Boston High School for four hours, threatening to kill them if they tried to go home.

The media spread the news of this vile attack across the country. The television networks showed the hate-distorted faces of these racists, while commentators implied that this was how the majority in Boston feel about Black people trying to get equal rights.

The demonstration today exposed this lie and dramatically showed the majority of people have nothing in common with the lynchers.

The crowd in the park swelled to 20,000. Shortly before 1:00 p.m., a contingent under the leadership of the Socialist Workers Party broke away from the majority and marched ahead to the Boston Common, but relatively few left with the SWP, and even some of these seem to have been confused.

To make matters worse, the SWP faction marched down what they proclaimed as the "legal" route, while the Black leadership were still attempting to pressure the police for a better one.

Crowd gets even larger

At 1:40 p.m., the march was off. "We say NO to racism," the crowd chanted as it surged up the street. By now the march was so large that a person standing in the midsection could not see either the front or rear. A group from South Boston was there, too, marching with Black people from Roxbury.

Many of the marchers had come hundreds of miles from the South to help the people of Boston fight the racists, just as 10 years ago many from Boston went South to aid in the struggle there.

It had been announced for several days that the march would proceed down Boylston Street, a route the racists have often used in their "anti-busing" marches. But Boston's liberal mayor, Kevin White, uses a different rulebook for Black people and their white supporters than the one for Hicks, Kerrigan and the other local racist politicians.

When the march reached the intersection of Boylston and Massachusetts Avenue, a massive police barricade appeared. Dozens of mounted cops, backed up by over 100 riot police and scores of cop cars and vans, blocked the way.

The marchers protested being denied the use of Boylston Street, which had always been open for right-wing demonstrations. But Boylston is the main shopping street and probably the richest in the whole state of Massachusetts, and capitalists who had welcomed the racists with open arms were adamant against letting an anti-racist march use the route.

The December 15 Boston Globe admitted this, writing, "Deputy Police Superintendent Joseph Jordan told reporters that Boylston Street businessmen had complained," and therefore the march could not go through.

Police charge

For about 20 minutes, the cops and demonstrators confronted each other, the marchers demanding the street be opened, the cops refusing. Suddenly, the mounted police charged, clubbing and pushing. Six of the marchers were arrested, but the line held.

The marchers then turned left and proceeded to Commonwealth Avenue and then to the Boston Common rally site. When the head of the march reached the speakers' platform at the Common, the hundreds of banners of the Emergency Committee proclaiming, "We say no to racism — we say no to racist mob violence," stretched back for more than a mile, all the way back to the starting point.

For almost an hour the marchers streamed into the Boston Common, and by the time Mtangulizi, the chairperson of the rally, introduced Ralph Abernathy, 25,000 people had massed in the Common.

Abernathy was warmly applauded by the crowd when he said, "We have come to Boston to say that Hicks and all her gang should be jailed." He went on to attack President [Gerald] Ford and said of poor whites: "Their struggle is our struggle. Let us get together and let the racists know we are not going to be turned back or turned around."

Dick Gregory nails the rich

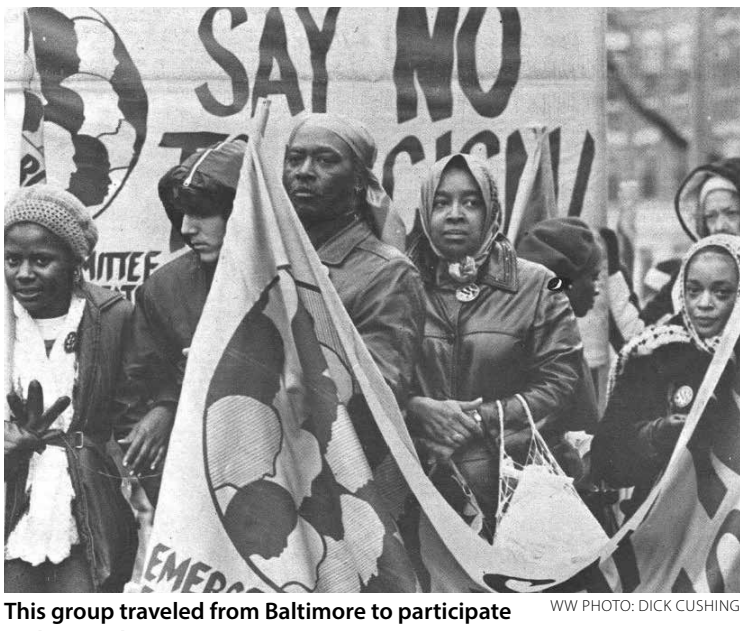
He was followed on the podium by Dick Gregory, who pointed the finger at the wealthy interests who have been behind the racist attacks, saying: "We're going to see to it that these few rich elites stop tricking white folks. The Rockefellers and the power class in this country wouldn't walk their dogs through the poor white neighborhoods or wash their feet in the pots poor whites cook in."

Jesús López of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party spoke next. "We are participating in this rally," López stated, "to raise the voice of the Puerto Rican people who are fighting the same enemy, U.S. imperialism. Our struggle is for the destruction of the reactionary capitalist system. This system uses racism to keep large sections of the people oppressed and exploited. The enemy is a small minority, the capitalists who leech off the blood and sweat of the workers all over the world. The Hickses, the Fords, the Rockefellers are using racism to divide the people."

Ellen Moves Camp, representing the American Indian Movement, followed López. Moves Camp called on all people to "stand as one against racism in the U.S." and asked for support for the Native Americans being framed up in the Eagle Bay case.

'We are ready!'

Bill Lucy, president of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, spoke next. Lucy told the crowd: "The time



WW PHOTO: DICK CUSHING

This group traveled from Baltimore to participate in the march against racism in Boston, Dec. 14, 1974.

Continued on page 9

Grassroots organizing overturns abortion bans

By Kathy Durkin

June 22, 2022, was a dire day for millions of women and others who can become pregnant. That was the day that the Supreme Court of the United States overturned a ruling made by that very court on Jan. 22, 1973, in the Roe v. Wade case, which legalized the right to abortion. The six right-wing justices ruled in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization that there was no legal right to abortion, thus removing two basic human rights — those of bodily autonomy and of health care.

Demonstrations in Washington, D.C., and at state capitals protested this reactionary decision, which gave states the green light to outlaw abortions. Rallies were held. Marches took place. Sit-ins at legislators' offices were organized. Actions took place around the country to demand full reproductive rights for all.

Protests are still taking place against local abortion bans and restrictions and will continue until the procedure is legal in every state. Today, 40% of women still live in states with bans; many are unable to travel to get medical care.

Banning the bans

Exciting grassroots organizing and petitioning have challenged bans in many states and won reversals of the laws criminalizing abortions. From 2022 to 2023, activists organized campaigns and gathered petition signatures to place referendums on state ballots legalizing abortions. They won the ballot measures or defeated anti-abortion referendums in seven states: California, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, Vermont and Ohio.

Then on Nov. 5 of this year, measures codifying abortion rights were on ballots in 10 states. Seven passed — in Arizona, Colorado, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey and New York. Abortions were already legal in five of these states, but Arizona had a partial ban and Missouri had a draconian near-total ban. Voters vetoed abortion legalization in Nebraska and South Dakota where reactionaries mobilized and propagandized.

In total, voters supported legal abortions in 14 of the 17 states where referendums were on the ballot. And in 11 of those 14 states, the constitutions were amended to include the right to legal abortions. These victories, made possible by the organized movement of thousands of activists and voted on by millions of people, should be applauded. Even though it was through the ballot box, reproductive rights forces in several states beat back the right-wing scheme to outlaw abortions.

But the fight isn't over in Missouri, home to a conservative government. Planned Parenthood clinics are suing the state to end criminal prosecutions of abortion providers and allow them to perform the procedures and dispense abortion pills. (Springfield News-Leader, Nov. 8)

In Florida, where the state requires a 60% supermajority vote to change the constitution, Proposition 4, legalizing abortion, narrowly failed, gaining 57% of the required votes. Reactionary Gov. Ron DeSantis had vociferously denounced it. So now, without abortion access in that state, a reproductive health care "desert" exists throughout the Southeast.

Bans can be deadly

Unfortunately, those health care deserts are increasing in states where the bans are so strict that doctors — especially OB-GYNs who can't perform essential health care even in emergencies because they risk imprisonment — are fleeing to non-ban states.

This means that oppressed Black, Latine, Indigenous, migrant and low-income individuals living in those states suffer the worst pregnancy outcomes, including higher maternal mortality (pregnancy-related deaths). Because of a lack of accessible OB-GYNs, many people can't get doctors' appointments and obtain prenatal care.

Washington, D.C., April 15, 2023

In states with bans, there have been deaths, severe complications and infections when emergency medical care is denied or delayed. ProPublica is investigating the true toll of abortion bans and has so far discovered deaths of four pregnant women: Amber Thurman and Candi Miller in Georgia and Josseli Barnica and 18-year-old Nevaeh Crain in Texas. Medical experts say these deaths were "preventable." The journalists say there may be many more.

Texas legislators instituted a strict abortion ban in 2021, a year before SCOTUS revoked the legal right to abortion. From 2019 until 2022, there was a drastic 56% rise in maternal mortality in the state, compared to a 11% countrywide increase during the same time span, reports the Gender Equity Policy Institute. Black women had the highest rate of pregnancy-related deaths, followed by Latinas. GEPI President Nancy Cohen said the state's abortion ban was the "primary driver of this alarming increase." (NBC News, Sept. 20)

Organize and fight back!

It is uplifting to learn of the movements in so many states which have won the legal right for medical professionals to provide abortions and for pregnant people to obtain them.

However it is carried out — on ballots, in courtrooms, at marches and rallies, or through boycotts, sit-ins and local and countrywide demonstrations — the struggle must go on. It is a matter of life and death. Safe, legal abortions save lives.

It's crucial in the new year for reproductive rights activists to join with other struggles — of immigrants against deportations, of workers for their rights, of Black, Latine and Indigenous communities against racism, of LGBTQIA2S+ people against bigotry and of anti-war protesters opposing U.S.-backed wars. And, ultimately, to aim their fire against the capitalist system, the root of all evils.

It was heartening that on Nov. 9, activists marched in several cities opposing deportations, defending reproductive rights, supporting workers and denouncing U.S.-backed wars. In Washington, D.C., protesters denounced the ultraright Heritage Foundation's reactionary Project 2025, which, if implemented, would severely curtail reproductive rights and health care.

We all need to join and show solidarity with all people's movements to push back the right-wing's attempts to take away our rights. In unity there is strength! The key words for 2025 are: Unity! Solidarity! Organize! Fight back! ❑

Historic 1974 Boston march against racism

Continued from page 8

has come to put human needs over capitalist needs. We are ready to come back any time in the fight to end racism."

John Boone, a leader in the fight against the concentration camp conditions in U.S. prisons, followed Lucy. Boone called the prison system "the second slave system." He introduced the wife of a prisoner who said, "It's time for people like myself to say we can't live with racism. I'm convinced that together we can do it."

Two high school students spoke next. Marguerita Skinner, a Black student attending school in South Boston, was warmly applauded when she stated, "We ought to be allowed to go to school there just like they are."

White student against racism

Linda Lawrence, a white high school student, spoke next and said that many of the white kids weren't against going to school with the Black students but that their parents were making them stay out. She said that "deep embedded racism" runs rampant where she lives and that she had been threatened for being seen with Black children.

"Racism, like a huge cloud, hangs over Boston today," she said, but added, "The clouds must eventually break and the sun shine through once more."

Claudette Furlonge followed the two students on the speakers' platform. A national coordinator for Women United For Action, Furlonge urged the people massed in the Commons to dig deep into the economic system itself to find those who promote racism: "Our demonstration here today must answer the racist mobs, show them we can't be intimidated, can't be beaten down. Our presence has shown them that they can't stop the struggle of Black people for freedom and justice.

"But it isn't just the racist mobs we must answer. We must set our sights on the big shots behind them, or we will fall short of our mark. We must get to those who instigate the violence, finance the organizing, those who find it so very, very profitable to have poor fighting poor when a depression is coming on."

'Stand up or lie down and die like dogs'

The next speaker was state Senator Bill Owens, the first Black state senator of Massachusetts and chairperson of the Emergency Committee. Owens said, "At some point we have to make a decision. Stand up or lie down and die like dogs." Calling the attacks on Black school children the epitome of racial oppression, Owens went on to denounce Mayor White for acceding to the Boylston Street millionaire demands to bar the march.

Owens stated: "Mayor White had the audacity to turn loose his militia on us this morning. The mayor of the city of Boston was willing to sacrifice all of us in favor of capitalism and big business. They were willing to trample us with horses. Big business did everything in its power to stop this march. The police department made up its mind that we wouldn't come here."

It was apparent from the size of the crowd that the mayor, the cops and the right wing had failed on all counts.

The speaking program wound up with Imamu aka Amiri Baraka, leader of the Congress of Afrikan People, and Professor George Wald, Nobel laureate in physiology.

On Friday, the night before the march, the Student Committee held a teach-in at nearby Harvard with nearly 1,000 people in attendance.

Georgia state Senator Julian Bond; the Reverend Vernon Carter, a famous Civil Rights fighter of the sixties; and Jonathan Kozol, author of "Death at an Early Age," addressed the crowd. Kozol received a standing ovation for his heartfelt indictment of the racist system.

Julian Bond said the racism was "cheered and encouraged by a parochial president" and "wrapped in and sanctified by the American flag."

Richard Wallace, a Black junior high school student, told a vivid story of how racist parents had sent their kids running through his school with white sheets on, screaming that they were the KKK.

Boston was not alone on Dec. 14 in the fight against racism. Support rallies were held in Seattle, Washington; San Francisco and Pasadena, California; Houston, Texas; Dubuque, Iowa; Youngstown, Ohio and Denver, Colorado.

Andy Stapp was a founder of the active-duty American Servicemen's Union which fought the U.S.'s imperialist war against Vietnam from inside the military and author of "Up Against the Brass" about the origins of the ASU. This article was edited.

WORKERS WORLD *editorial*

Cabinet dysfunction

Continued from page 1

Kennedy's greatest fame, besides his family history, is as a vaccine denier, a science skeptic and a threat to the already feeble U.S. public health system. Kennedy also opposes the food industry practice of producing super-processed snacks.

If RFK Jr actually tries to carry out his ideas, it will put him in conflict with the pharmaceutical industry. During the Covid-19 crisis, the first Trump administration subsidized the pharmaceuticals' research, and they flourished. Kennedy will also confront the foodstuff producers and their processed snacks. This too might lead to an opening for struggle — or Trump might just fire Kennedy.

Then there is Elon Musk, who bought his way inside Trump's inner circle. Trump has created a position in the newly established "Department of Government Efficiency" for Musk, currently the richest person in the world.

Musk has reportedly been hanging out at Trump's Mar-a-Lago retreat with the president-elect. Along with pharmaceuticals capitalist Vivek Ramaswamy, himself a billionaire, Musk will recommend cutting government programs they deem unnecessary — it's easy to imagine which ones.

One wonders, however, how long a mutual admiration society can last between individuals who each think they're the greatest. We'll see.

Unfortunately, we can't plan on this collection of scoundrels to self-destruct. We have to be ready to mobilize wherever we can to expose their policies and that of the new administration.

But if the new administration unleashes a wave of infighting in the ruling class, we must also be ready to find a way to use their mutual attacks to build a mass struggle against both sides. And we must mobilize this struggle while maintaining political and organizational independence from the two ruling-class factions — MAGA or neocon establishment, Republican or Democrat. It won't be easy, but it will be possible. ☐

War widens, resistance grows

Continued from page 1

9% of the population of the Gaza Strip! That fits anyone's definition of genocide.

Slaughter expands to Lebanon, U.S. sends troops

Over 3,000 people have been killed by Israeli troops in Beirut, its suburbs and other parts of Lebanon. Now the Israeli regime/army has handed Hezbollah a ceasefire "proposal" that is tantamount to demanding surrender.

The widening of the war is reflected in the expanding role of the primary backer of the Zionist state, U.S. imperialism. In October, Washington sent 100 U.S. troops to Israel to accompany its latest gift, a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile battery, and 3,000 additional troops to bases and ships around West Asia. This brings the total number of U.S. troops in the region to 43,000.

U.S. and British armed forces have bombed cities in Yemen in retaliation for Yemen's targeting of ships attempting to deliver weapons to Israel.

Regardless of what some voters were misled to believe, President-elect Donald Trump will not bring peace to West Asia. This was made clear by the huge billboards that popped up in Tel Aviv reading, "Trump, make Israel great again."

Axis of Resistance weakening Israel

The flip side of this tragedy is that the Axis of Resistance — which includes the united armed resistance groups in Palestine, Hezbollah in Lebanon, Islamic Resistance in Iraq, Ansarallah in Yemen and Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps — has dealt a major blow to Israel and its imperialist supporters.

Hezbollah, the Palestinian Resistance and other forces in the Axis of Resistance have, time after time, hit bases, tanks and gatherings of the Israel Occupation Forces with rockets and drones. Attempts at a ground invasion of Lebanon have been rebuffed by Hezbollah, which recently hit Netanyahu's residence with flares.

Ansarallah has hit ships bound for Israel. "The combination of wide-area surveillance, close-in target shadowing and terminal guidance has allowed the Houthis to achieve some impressive feats of marksmanship, such as an apparent near-miss on a U.S. aircraft carrier," said Michael Knights, referring to the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, almost hit in June. (nationalinterest.org, Nov. 2)

IOF morale is at an all-time low, and as casualties among its soldiers mount, Israel is having to employ mercenaries. Zionist settlers are leaving Israel in record numbers, and Israel's economy is in shambles. The settler-colonial project is in jeopardy.

Why? To quote the Popular Resistance Committees: "Our people, their resistance and the axis of resistance will continue with steadfastness and determination until the aggression is broken and the fascist zionist project targeting the entire nation is defeated and crushed." (Resistance News Network, Nov. 16) ☐

UAW members to top leaders: Divest from genocide!

By Martha Grevatt

In the morning of Nov. 12, a new group, Engineers Against Apartheid, held banners and signs and gave speeches outside the United Auto Workers headquarters in downtown Detroit. The main banner read: "Unchain the UAW! Divest from Israel now!"

These automotive engineers have joined groups such as UAW Labor for Palestine and United All Workers for Democracy in calling on the UAW International Executive Board (IEB) to vote to divest all union funds from Israel Bonds. The union's current investments in bonds that fund the Zionist war machine have an estimated value of $400,000.

Many of the engineers are part of Detroit's sizable Arab and Muslim communities. They are not unionized and would be more likely to organize with the UAW if it divested from Israel. Their action was timed to coincide with the meeting of the IEB, which took place from Nov. 12-14. Engineers Against Apartheid held another demonstration on Nov. 14, the last day of the IEB meeting.

UAW Labor for Palestine, a rank-and-file group with hundreds of members, has been pushing the IEB to act in solidarity with Palestine for over a year. It has taken the lead from the over 30 Palestinian trade unions and professional associations that issued a united call in October 2023 to end all complicity with and stop arming Israel.

UAW calls for ceasefire

On Dec. 1, 2023, the UAW took a big step forward when it issued a statement calling for a ceasefire in Gaza and pledging to form a "Divestment and Just Transition working group to study the history of Israel and Palestine, our union's economic ties to the conflict, and explore how we can have a just transition for U.S. workers from war to peace."

Two weeks later UAW President Shawn Fain reiterated the union's position at a press conference outside the White House. He was joined by other union leaders and Congressional Reps. Cori Bush and Rashida Tlaib.

Since the press conference in December, the UAW issued a statement May 1 supporting the student solidarity encampments demanding colleges and universities divest from Israel. The union called for all legal charges and academic disciplinary action against encampment participants— many of whom are UAW-represented graduate student workers— to be dropped.

In July the UAW and several other unions called for an arms embargo of Israel and endorsed the demonstration in Washington, D.C., protesting Israeli President Benjamin Netanyahu's speech before Congress.

All of these actions represented a sharp break with the U.S. labor movement's long history of supporting Israel and maintaining ties with the Zionist labor federation Histadrut and its supporters in the Jewish Labor Federation. These progressive positions were a rebuke of the Democratic Party and President "Genocide Joe" Biden.

UAW needs to divest

However, the UAW's stances over the past year have been marked by inconsistency. Not long after the December press conference, the union gave Biden an embarrassingly glowing endorsement. It does not appear that the "Divestment and Just Transition Working Group" has made any progress whatsoever. UAW-represented workers continue to build weapons and conduct research for Israel at universities.

In May, when an IEB member motioned for the board to pass a divestment resolution, there were only three votes in favor out of a possible 14.

Over the past few weeks hundreds of rank-and-file members called and emailed their regional directors — who sit on the IEB — urging them to pass a divestment resolution. UAW Labor for Palestine put out a news release and held an online press conference centering rank-and-file voices calling on the union to divest.

The UAW has an opportunity to set a historic precedent by becoming the first U.S. labor organization to divest from Israeli apartheid. Yet the issue was not brought up at the November meeting.

Reasons for not divesting are weak. Opponents say it would cost too much in fees to withdraw from the fund holding the Israel Bonds or that the rank-and-file members in the automotive industry don't support it or don't care.

But none of the groups organizing the campaign for union divestment from genocide are throwing in the towel any time soon. ☐

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title: WW Publishers/Workers World
2. Publication Number: 53990
ISSN: 10704205
3. Filing Date: 9/30/2024
4. Issue Frequency: Monthly
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 122
6. Annual Subscription Price: $ 36.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: 121 W. 27th St., Ste. 404, New York, NY 10001-6263; **Contact Person:** M. Goldberg; **Telephone:** 212-255-0352
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: 121 W. 27th St. Ste 404, New York, NY 10001-6263
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor
Publisher: WW Publishers, Inc., 121 W. 27th St., Ste. 404, New York, NY 10001-6263
Editor: Deirdre Griswold, 121 W. 27th St., Ste. 404, New York, NY 10001-6263
Managing Editor: Monica Moorehead, 121 W. 27th St., Ste. 404, New York, NY 10001-6263
10. Owner: Full Name: Deirdre Griswold
Complete Mailing Address: Deirdre Griswold, 121 W. 27th St., Ste. 404, New York, NY 10001-6263
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. None
12. Tax Status The purpose, function and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed in the last 12 months.
13. Publication Title: WW Publishers/Workers World
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 9/26/2024
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months (No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date):
a. Total Numbers of Copies *(Net press run):* 4416 (4000)
b. Paid Circulation *(By Mail and Outside the Mail)*
(1) Mailed Outside County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 *(include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)*: 1342 (1338)
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 *(include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)*: 46 (43)
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS: 25 (25)
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS *(e.g. First-Class Mail)*: 1835 (1350)
c. Total Paid Distribution *(Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), (4))*: 3248 (2756)
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution ***(By Mail and Outside the Mail)***
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside County Copies included on PS Form 3541: 0 (0)
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541: 0 (0)
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS *(e.g. First-Class Mail)* 0 (0)
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail *(Carriers or other means)*: 650 (700)
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution *(Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), (4))*: 650 (700)
f. Total Distribution *(Sum of 15c, 15e)*: 3898 (3456)
g. Copies not Distributed 518 (544)
h. Total ***(Sum of 15f and 15g)*** 4416 (4000)
i. Percent Paid *((15c divided by 15f) times 100)* 83.32 % (79.75 %)
16. If total circulation includes electronic copies, report that circulation on lines below.
a. Paid Electronic Copies 0 (0)
b. Total Paid Print Copies *(Line 15C)* **+ Paid Electronic Copies** 0 (0)
c. Total Print Distribution *(Line 15F)* **+ Paid Electronic Copies** 0 (0)
d. Percent Paid *(Both Print and Electronic Copies)* 0.00 % (0.00 %)
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership:
☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in 11/21/2024 issue of this publication.
☐ Publication not required.
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
Deirdre Griswold, Editor, 9/30/2024 18:59:33 PM: I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Leslie Feinberg

A communist who revolutionized transgender rights

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

This tribute to Leslie Feinberg by her partner of 22 years, Minnie Bruce Pratt, was first published on workers.org on November 18, 2014. Feinberg died on Nov. 15, 2014, and Pratt died on July 2, 2023.

Minnie Bruce Pratt and Leslie Feinberg.

Leslie Feinberg, who identified as an anti-racist white, working-class, secular Jewish, transgender, lesbian, female, revolutionary communist, died on Nov. 15. She succumbed to complications from multiple tick-borne co-infections, including Lyme disease, babeisiosis and protomyxzoa rheumatica, after decades of illness.

She died at home in Syracuse, N.Y., with her partner and spouse of 22 years, Minnie Bruce Pratt, at her side. Her last words were: "Hasten the revolution! Remember me as a revolutionary communist."

Feinberg was the first theorist to advance a Marxist concept of "transgender liberation," and her work impacted popular culture, academic research and political organizing.

Her historical and theoretical writing has been widely anthologized and taught in the U.S. and international academic circles. Her impact on mass culture was primarily through her 1993 first novel, "Stone Butch Blues," widely considered in and outside the U.S. as a groundbreaking work about the complexities of gender. Sold by the hundreds of thousands and also passed from hand-to-hand inside prisons, the novel has been translated into Chinese, Dutch, German, Italian, Slovenian, Turkish and Hebrew. Her earnings from the Hebrew edition go to ASWAT, Palestinian Gay Women.

Painting a wall for CeCe McDonald

In a statement at the end of her life, she said she had "never been in search of a common umbrella identity, or even an umbrella term, that brings together people of oppressed sexes, gender expressions and sexualities," and added that she believed in the right of self-determination of oppressed individuals, communities, groups and nations.

She preferred to use the pronouns she/zie and her/hir for herself, but also said: "I care which pronoun is used, but people have been respectful to me with the wrong pronoun and disrespectful with the right one. It matters whether someone is using the pronoun as a bigot or if they are trying to demonstrate respect."

Low-wage worker, anti-racist organizer

Feinberg was born Sept. 1, 1949, in Kansas City, Missouri, and raised in Buffalo, New York, in a working-class Jewish family. At age 14 she began supporting herself by working in the display sign shop of a local department store and eventually stopped going to high school classes, though officially she received her diploma. It was during this time that she entered the social life of the Buffalo gay bars. She moved out of a biological family hostile to her sexuality and gender expression and to the end of her life carried legal documents that made clear they were not her family.

Discrimination against her as a transgender person made it impossible for her to get steady work. She earned her living for most of her life through a series of low-wage temp jobs, including working in a PVC pipe factory and a book bindery, cleaning out ship cargo holds and washing dishes, serving as an ASL interpreter and doing medical data inputting.

In her early twenties, Feinberg met Workers World Party at a demonstration for Palestinian land rights and self-determination. She soon joined WWP's founding Buffalo branch.

After moving to New York City, she participated in numerous mass organizing campaigns by the party over the years, including many antiwar, pro-labor rallies. She was a key organizer in the December 1974 March Against Racism in Boston, a campaign against white supremacist attacks on African American adults and schoolchildren in the city. Feinberg led a group of 10 lesbian-identified people, including several from South Boston, on an all-night "paste-up" of South Boston, covering every visible racist epithet. In 1983-1984 she embarked on a national tour about AIDS as a denied epidemic.

Feinberg was one of the organizers of the 1988 mobilization in Atlanta that routed the white supremacist Ku Klux Klan as they tried to march down Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue on MLK Day. When anti-abortion groups descended on Buffalo in 1992 and again in 1998-1999, following the murder there of Dr. Barnett Slepian, Feinberg returned to work with Buffalo United for Choice and its Rainbow Peacekeepers, which organized community self-defense for local LGBTQ+ bars and clubs as well as the women's clinic.

A WW journalist since 1974, Feinberg was the editor of the Political Prisoners page of the newspaper for 15 years, becoming a managing editor in 1995. She was a member of the National Committee of the Party.

From 2004 to 2008, Feinberg's writing on the links between socialism and LGBTQIA2S+ history, "Lavender & Red," ran as a 120-part series in Workers World. Her most recent book, "Rainbow Solidarity in Defense of Cuba," was an edited selection of that series. (workers.org/lavender-red)

Feinberg authored two other nonfiction books, "Transgender Warriors: Making History" and "Trans Liberation: Beyond Pink or Blue," as well as a second novel, "Drag King Dreams."

Feinberg was a member of the National Writers Union, United Auto Workers Local 1981 and of Pride at Work, an AFL-CIO constituency group. She received an honorary doctorate from the Starr King School for the Ministry for her transgender and social justice work and was the recipient of numerous other awards, including the Lambda Literary Award and the American Library Association Gay and Lesbian Book Award.

'Bigotry, prejudice, lack of science'

During a period when diseases would not allow her to read, write or talk, Feinberg continued to communicate through art. Picking up a camera for the first time, she posted thousands of pictures on Flickr, including "The Screened-In Series," a disability-art, class-conscious documentary of her Hawley-Green neighborhood [in Syracuse, New York] photographed entirely from behind the windows of her apartment. (tinyurl.com/k5bpg58)

Diagnosed with Lyme and multiple tick-borne co-infections in 2008, Feinberg was infected first in the early 1970s when little was known about the diseases. She had received treatment for these only within the last six years. She said, "My experience in [International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society] care offers great hope to desperately ill people who are in earlier stages of tick-borne diseases."

She attributed her catastrophic health crisis to "bigotry, prejudice and lack of science" — active prejudice toward her transgender identity that made access to health care exceedingly difficult and lack of science from limits placed by mainstream medical authorities on information, treatment and research about Lyme and its co-infections. She blogged online about these issues in "Casualty of an Undeclared War." (transgenderwarrior.org)

At the time of her death, Feinberg was preparing a 20th-anniversary edition of "Stone Butch Blues." She worked up to within a few days of her death to prepare the edition for free access, reading and download from online. In addition to the text of the novel, the online edition will contain a slideshow, "This Is What Solidarity Looks Like," documenting the breadth of the organizing campaign to free CeCe McDonald, a young Minneapolis (trans)woman organizer and activist sent to prison for defending herself against a white neo-Nazi attacker. The new edition is dedicated to McDonald. A devoted group of friends are continuing to work to post Feinberg's final writing and art online at lesliefeinberg.net.

Feinberg's spouse, Minnie Bruce Pratt, an activist and poet, is the author of "Crime Against Nature" about loss of custody of her sons as a lesbian mother. Feinberg and Pratt met in 1992 when Feinberg presented a slideshow on her transgender research in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the local Workers World branch. After a long-distance courtship, they made their home for many years in Jersey City, New Jersey, where, to protect their relationship, the couple domestic-partnered in 2004 and civil-unioned in 2006. They also married in a civil ceremony in Massachusetts and in New York state in 2011.

Feinberg stressed that state authorities had no right to assign who were or were not her loved ones but rather that she would define her chosen family, citing Marx who said that the exchange value of love is — love.

Feinberg is survived by Pratt and an extended family of choice, as well as many friends, activists and comrades around the world in struggle against oppression and for liberation. ☐

Since 1970, Indigenous people & their allies have gathered at noon on Cole's Hill in Plymouth to commemorate a National Day of Mourning on the US Thanksgiving holiday. Many Native people do not celebrate the arrival of the Pilgrims & other European settlers. Thanksgiving Day is a reminder of the genocide of millions of Native people, the theft of Native lands and the erasure of Native cultures. Participants in National Day of Mourning honor Indigenous ancestors and Native resilience. It is a day of remembrance and spiritual connection, as well as a protest against the racism and oppression that Indigenous people continue to experience worldwide.

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING
Thursday, November 28, 2024
12 Noon - Cole's Hill (above Plymouth Rock)
Plymouth, Massachusetts

Join us as we continue to create a true awareness of Native peoples and history. Help shatter the untrue image of the Pilgrims, and the unjust system based on racism, settler colonialism, sexism, homophobia and the profit-driven destruction of the Earth that they and other European settlers introduced to these shores.

Solidarity with Indigenous struggles throughout the world
From Turtle Island to Palestine, Colonialism is a Crime!
While many supporters will attend in person, we will also livestream the event from Plymouth.

Masks are required.
No sit-down social, but box lunches will be available.

#NDOM2024 #NoThanksNoGiving

United American Indians of New England (decolonizing since 1970)
www.uaine.org facebook.com/groups/UAINE info@uaine.org
Bus info and more at Facebook event: https://bit.ly/NDOM2024

UAINE NOT VANISHING NOT CONQUERED STRONGER THAN EVER

Union labor donated

WORKERS WORLD
MUNDO OBRERO

Correspondencia sobre artículos en Workers World/Mundo Obrero pueden ser enviadas a: WW-MundoObrero@workers.org

¡Proletarios y oprimidos de todos los paises unios! workers.org Vol. 66 Núm. 47 23 de noviembre de 2024 $1

FOTO MO: JOE PIETTE

'He terminado con el capitalismo.' Manifestación del Primero de Mayo de 2020, Filadelfia.

Capitalismo: el mayor ganador de la campaña electoral

Por Monica Moorehead

La escritora fue candidata presidencial del Partido Mundo Obrero en 1996, 2000 y 2016. Obtuvo más votos que ningún otro candidato socialista en las elecciones de 1996.

Casi una semana después de las elecciones del 5 de noviembre, los expertos burgueses siguen analizando cómo ganó Donald Trump con tanta facilidad y qué salió tan mal en la campaña de Kamala Harris. Estas cuestiones pueden ser importantes a corto plazo, pero a largo plazo, dejan de lado lo más importante: la cuestión de clase.

Los marxistas entienden que la cuestión de la opresión de clase está en el centro de todos los acontecimientos, desde todas las formas de supremacía blanca, misoginia, ataque a los inmigrantes, opresión trans, cambio climático, etc., hasta las cuestiones de fondo. Se reduce a los explotados y los explotadores, los oprimidos y los opresores. A primera vista, puede parecer que políticos individuales como Trump y Harris representan únicamente a los partidos Republicano y Demócrata, pero esta visión errónea está pasando por alto el bosque por los árboles.

La verdad de clase es que estos candidatos, como muchos antes que ellos, pertenecen a partidos que representan los intereses del sistema capitalista, no los de los trabajadores y los pueblos oprimidos. El capitalismo es un sistema económico mundial impulsado a obtener beneficios a cualquier precio mediante la superexplotación del trabajo y los recursos de la clase trabajadora mundial.

Es el sistema capitalista que dio lugar a una pequeña camarilla de multimillonarios y billonarios para ayudar a mantener este sistema en crisis, con todos sus ciclos erráticos de subidas y bajadas. El sistema depende absolutamente de los rescates, de la subida y bajada de los tipos de interés, de los despidos masivos, de los bajos salarios y demás para su propia supervivencia.

Mientras que la clase trabajadora fue en esencia la mayor perdedora de las elecciones de 2024, ya que su supervivencia cotidiana no cambió fundamentalmente con el resultado, la mayor ganadora de todas fue la clase multimillonaria y el sistema al que sirven.

Basta con leer el informe del Índice de Multimillonarios de Bloomberg después de las elecciones para corroborar esta realidad: «El miércoles no sólo fue un buen día para Donald Trump. La riqueza de las 10 personas más ricas del mundo también se disparó en una cantidad récord. El que más ganó fue Elon Musk, la persona más rica del mundo y uno de los partidarios más abiertos y entregados de Trump, cuya riqueza subió el miércoles 26.500 millones de dólares hasta los 290.000 millones.

«La riqueza del fundador de Amazon, Jeff Bezos, creció 7.100 millones de dólares una semana después de defender su decisión de retener el respaldo del Washington Post a la vicepresidenta Kamala Harris. El cofundador de Oracle, Larry Ellison, otro partidario de Trump, vio aumentar su patrimonio neto en 5.500 millones de dólares el miércoles».

El informe continuaba diciendo: «Otros ganadores incluyen a los ex ejecutivos de Microsoft Bill Gates y Steve Ballmer, los ex ejecutivos de Google Larry Page y Sergey Brin y el CEO de Berkshire Hathaway Warren Buffett. Aunque ninguno de esos multimillonarios respaldó a un candidato este año, se han pronunciado a favor de candidatos y causas demócratas en el pasado. En conjunto, las 10 personas más ricas ganaron 64.000 millones de dólares. Bloomberg señala que es el «mayor incremento diario» de riqueza que ha visto desde que el índice comenzó en 2012.» (CNN, 7 de noviembre)

Forbes estima ahora el patrimonio neto de Elon Musk en 304.000 millones de dólares.

Este informe no ocupó grandes titulares tras las elecciones. Y por una buena razón. A los principales portavoces de la clase dominante multimillonaria, los medios de comunicación, no les interesa difundir estas cifras escandalosas. La clase dominante teme crear ira entre los trabajadores y, lo que es más importante, despertar la conciencia de clase sobre lo que son las elecciones en Estados Unidos: mantener y reforzar el dominio de clase.

Las elecciones: un escenario para llegar a nuestra clase

En todas las elecciones en las que el Partido Mundo Obrero (WWP-PMO) ha participado desde 1980, el objetivo principal ha sido exponer el sesgo de clase de las elecciones a cualquier trabajador y oprimido que quisiera escuchar, a cualquiera que buscara una alternativa real a sus inestables condiciones.

Las campañas electorales del WWP-PMO siempre han hablado de las necesidades y aspiraciones de nuestra clase, de lo que los políticos capitalistas sólo hablan de boquilla cada cuatro años, con la esperanza de ocupar la Casa Blanca. El WWP-PMO nunca separa su programa revolucionario de la necesidad de una revolución socialista para derrocar las crueles e inhumanas relaciones de clase y liberar a los trabajadores de la esclavitud asalariada.

Cualquier partido anticapitalista y antiimperialista que decida utilizar el escenario de las elecciones burguesas -que se imponen a nuestra clase cada cuatro años- como táctica y estrategia para llegar a los sectores más amplios de la clase obrera tiene el deber de demostrar que el camino hacia la verdadera liberación no depende de un partido capitalista sobre otro, sino a través de una lucha independiente de ambos.

¿Cuál es la tarea a seguir ahora que han pasado las elecciones de 2024? No es una pregunta fácil de responder con muchas fuerzas progresistas aún tambaleándose por un multimillonario abiertamente fascista, misógino y xenófobo que ocupa de nuevo el Despacho Oval.

Apoyar las próximas manifestaciones como medida defensiva seguirá siendo importante para demostrar a los partidarios del statu quo que el movimiento sigue vivo y que no va a ninguna parte. Al mismo tiempo, las fuerzas revolucionarias con mayor conciencia de clase deben pasar a la ofensiva para desarrollar una perspectiva unida y de clase a escala mundial. Eso ayudará a llenar el vacío que han creado las elecciones burguesas. Han dominado a los trabajadores y a los oprimidos durante demasiado tiempo. ❐

MUNDO OBRERO
editorial

Unir a trabajadores y oprimidos, luchar contra MAGA y la guerra

El editorial de Mundo Obrero del día después de las elecciones llamaba a todos los que luchan contra la guerra imperialista y a todos los que odian y pretenden combatir el programa MAGA a «responder con todas las formas de protesta a cualquier ataque que se nos presente».

La respuesta inicial de la oposición antiimperialista ha sido alentadora: los que luchan contra el genocidio en Gaza y Líbano no han dudado en permanecer en las calles.

Estas acciones han sido la punta de lanza del movimiento antiimperialista durante el último año. A juzgar por el número de acciones programadas en la región de Nueva York a lo largo de noviembre, el movimiento contra el genocidio se niega a ceder ante el imperialismo estadounidense, independientemente del partido que dirija Washington. Los activistas merecen el pleno apoyo de todos los que se consideran antiimperialistas y luchadores por el socialismo.

Demócratas y republicanos tienen prácticamente la misma política exterior. Su principal desacuerdo consiste en culparse mutuamente de los numerosos reveses sufridos por la hegemonía imperialista estadounidense en el último periodo: la retirada de Afganistán, el inminente colapso de la guerra por poderes en Ucrania, los avances económicos de China.

Ambos partidos arman a Israel y lo han hecho durante 75 años. Ambos financian las bases del Pentágono que rodean China y Corea del Norte. Ambos amenazan a Irán. Ambos hacen la guerra económica con sanciones y provocan la emigración, para luego culpar a los emigrantes de todo. Ambos arman a los reaccionarios ucranianos y la guerra de la OTAN contra Rusia. Trump exige una mayor financiación europea. Gran cosa.

Recuerden que tanto si Trump como Joe Biden eran el Comandante en Jefe, el Pentágono tuvo que salir de Afganistán e Irak y retirarse de los planes para la conquista de Siria. Los antiimperialistas tendrán nuevas oportunidades de obstruir el impulso estadounidense hacia el militarismo y la guerra, desde Asia Occidental hasta Europa Oriental y Asia Oriental, y de luchar para impedir que Estados Unidos arme a Israel, tanto si los demócratas como los republicanos están en la Casa Blanca.

FOTO MO: JOE PIETTE

'¡Abajo el imperialismo yanqui! ¡Luchar por la liberación!' Filadelfia, 9 de noviembre de 2024.

En otro frente, muchas personas consideran la victoria electoral del Partido Republicano de Trump una amenaza particular en cuestiones vitales. Tienen buenas razones para prepararse para la autodefensa. Trump ha atacado abiertamente los derechos reproductivos, a las mujeres, la sindicación, la igualdad racial, los programas gubernamentales que subsidian la atención médica, el pago de las jubilaciones, la acción afirmativa y la educación pública. Su campaña se dirigió contra nuestros camaradas de la clase trabajadora que han emigrado a Estados Unidos y que son trabajadores esenciales aquí. Él y sus compinches arrojan intolerancia —especialmente contra las personas trans— racismo, misoginia y xenofobia a través de los medios de comunicación.

Es alentador entonces que las organizaciones y coaliciones también hayan convocado protestas para mostrar su oposición al nuevo régimen en esos temas y en cualquier paso que el régimen MAGA dé para atacar a los sectores oprimidos de la clase trabajadora dentro de las fronteras estadounidenses. La solidaridad debe ser el primer punto de nuestra agenda.

Ya ha habido protestas por parte de algunos sindicatos. Las coaliciones ad hoc han convocado protestas contra la nueva administración el 18 de enero y el día de la toma de posesión. Las organizaciones antiimperialistas y revolucionarias también deben intervenir en este tipo de acciones. Deben unirse a los sectores de la clase obrera que están en movimiento contra el nuevo régimen de MAGA y ayudar a soldar estos diversos sectores en una fuerza de lucha unida. Sólo así podrán tanto ganar batallas como influir en la dirección de la lucha.

Al igual que durante la primera administración Trump, muchos de los que protestan contra la gente de MAGA pueden tener la ilusión de que empujar al gobierno de vuelta hacia el Partido Demócrata les protegerá y resolverá sus problemas. No, no lo hará. Necesitamos una autodefensa popular de todos los sectores de nuestra clase -la clase trabajadora- bajo ataque. Y necesitamos una organización independiente de la política electoral capitalista, o la clase obrera se verá de nuevo atrapada eligiendo entre dos partidos que son ambos sus enemigos, como demostraron las elecciones de 2024.

Sólo encontrando formas de participar en las acciones al tiempo que mantenemos nuestra posición independiente, revolucionaria y antiimperialista podremos influir en sectores más amplios de nuestra clase y exponer la imposibilidad de que ni el Partido Republicano ni el Demócrata conduzcan a nada que no sea el desastre.

¿Cuál es el camino a seguir? Derrotar a los fanáticos militaristas de MAGA a la vez que rompemos con los demócratas militaristas. ❐